

Amendments to the Claims:

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A mutant strain of *Toxoplasma gondii*, ~~an Apicomplex of the family Sarcocystidae, characterized in that it comprises a mutation which inactivates the in~~ which adhesin MIC1 and ~~a mutation which inactivates the adhesin MIC3~~ are inactivated by a mutation of each of MIC1 and MIC3 genes.

Claims 2 and 3 (cancelled).

Claim 4 (currently amended): ~~The use of a~~ A method of vaccination against an infection by *Toxoplasma gondii*, comprising administering to an animal the mutant strain of *Toxoplasma gondii* as claimed in ~~any one of claims 1 to 3, for obtaining a vaccine~~ claim 1.

Claim 5 (cancelled).

Claim 6 (currently amended): A vaccine comprising [a] the mutant strain of *Toxoplasma gondii* as claimed in ~~any one of claims 1 to 3~~ claim 1.

Claim 7 (new): A method of protecting an animal against the formation of brain cysts during *Toxoplasma gondii* infection, comprising administering to an animal the mutant strain of *Toxoplasma gondii* as claimed in claim 1.

Claim 8 (new): A method of reducing abortions caused by *Toxoplasma gondii*, comprising administering to an animal the mutant strain of *Toxoplasma gondii* as claimed in claim 1.

Claim 9 (new): A composition comprising the mutant strain of *Toxoplasma gondii* as claimed in claim 1.